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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

11 AUGUST 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Communist Chinese
agricultural difficulties

They have suffered a serious shortfall in their first major wheat harvest of the year at a time when they are plagued by severe food shortages and widespread malnutrition. The winter wheat crop, which usually accounts for 11 percent of grain production, may be off from 1960, itself a poor year, by as much as 20 percent.

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the Chinese are saying that Moscow has fallen down in helping them with their agricultural and industrial problems.

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2. Laotian developments

Both Phoumi and Boun Oum have informed Ambassador Brown that the Phnom Penh meetings left them convinced that Souvanna is not a free agent. Meanwhile, at Xieng Khouang, Kong Le headquarters, the town and airfield are under artillery and mortar fire from Meo units of the Royal Army. A strong Kong Le Pathet Lao counter-action can be expected.

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3. Algerian rebels troubled
by internal dissension

Pressure on the present rebel leaders from more extreme military commanders may have been a key factor in their break-off of negotiations with the French.

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4. South Korea to delay
return to civil rule

Under Pak's present plan, which he is scheduled to make public on Monday, civilian government will not be restored before mid-1963. This and other provisions, which appear to reflect pressure from the young colonels' clique, are not likely to go down well with educated South Koreans who hope for an early return to civil rule. Our Ambassador, who has been consulted on the plan by Pak, has suggested the desirability of revision.

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NOTES

- A. Japanese [] officials are concerned about rightist threats to the security of Soviet leader Mikoyan, who will open the Soviet Trade Fair in Tokyo on August 14. Some 1000 Japanese who tried to demonstrate before the Soviet Embassy this morning were turned back by police. [] 50X1
- B. The UN representative in Leopoldville says that Gizenga has told foreign diplomats in Stanleyville that the Adoula government is now the legal government of the Congo and they must apply to it for accreditation. Gizenga, however, has still made no public commitment to Leopoldville. [] 50X1
- C. Two more Soviet TU-16's (roughly equivalent to our B-47) are en route to Indonesia. Delivery will bring the total to four. [] 50X1
- [] 50X1
- E. Titov told a press conference that he did not land his space ship, he parachuted. In Gagarin's case, after some conflicts in the story, the official claim was that the ship landed with him. [] 50X1

LATE NOTE

The East German foreign minister has just declared that an Eastern Bloc foreign ministers conference will be convened in "the late fall" to draw up a peace treaty for both East and West Germany. [] 50X1

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